

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
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ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 29-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/29/03	03/22/03
BRO-FRY	158,032	151,312
LT HENS	1,684	1,735
HVY HENS	1,476	1,324

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA
 WEEK ENDING 22-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	139	0	139
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	190	3	193
SAME WEEK YR AGO	357	0	357
TO-DATE/2003	3,652	53	3,705
TO-DATE/2002	4,350	20	4,370

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,736	1,280	3,016
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK 1/11/03	1,748	1,359	3,107
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,169	1,360	3,529
TO-DATE/2003	23,055	16,104	39,159
TO-DATE/2002	25,692	15,528	41,220

LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 22-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	153,022	1,597	1,280	2,877
AVG WT	5.09	3.40	7.89	5.40
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	151,337	1,558	1,356	2,914
SAME WK YR AGO	151,624	1,812	1,360	3,172
AVG WT	5.13	3.37	7.80	5.27
TO-DATE/2003	1,781,825	19,403	16,051	35,454
TO-DATE/2002	1,830,776	21,342	15,508	36,850

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 155.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.9 million head or 1 million head less than or 99% of estimated fryers available.

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING March 15, 2003**

(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE	(B) RETAIL	(C) DEBONING
4.20 LBS & DOWN	4.21-5.25 LBS	5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	26,160	21,941	36,261
Avg Weight	3.71	4.83	6.21
% of total /1	31%	26%	43%

COMPARISONS

Last week	21,171	20,312	47,467
Avg Weight	3.72	4.85	6.47
% of total /1	24%	23%	53%

Same week, yr ago /2	26,705	29,710	47,559
Avg Weight	3.82	4.79	6.15
% of total /1	26%	29%	46%

To date/2003	251,372	226,320	465,272
To date/2002	350,349	260,657	514,458

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 22-Mar-2003
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,777	2,744	43	28	4,592
AVG WT	15.79	36.29	25.25	28.94	28.21
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,736	2,757	46	25	4,564
SAME WK YR AGO	1,795	2,682	52	10	4,539
AVG WT	16.13	35.30	24.61	29.46	27.58
TO-DATE/2003	20,231	31,013	681	183	52,108
TO-DATE/2002	20,783	31,346	511	104	52,744

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.